

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 00860 091510Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01
EB-08 TRSE-00 BIB-01 IO-13 /081 W
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R 091403Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1496
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, RO, GE
SUBJ: EAST GERMAN PARTY LEADER VISITS ROMANIA
REF: BUCHAREST 0086

1. SUMMARY. PREVIOUSLY UNANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 4-6 FIRST-
EVER "FRIENDSHIP" VISIT OF GDR PARTY LEADER HONECKER TO
ROMANIA DEALT WITH BILATERAL ECONOMIC TIES, BUT ALSO
PROVED "VERY USEFUL" IN ACQUAINTING TWO LEADERS WITH EACH
OTHERS' VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, ACCORDING TO
ROMANIAN DEPFONMIN. ROMANIANS SAY THEY ARE PLEASED BY
RECITATION OF BERLIN ECPC PARTY PRINCIPLES IN
COMMUNIQUE, AS WELL AS ABSENCE OF "PROLETARIAN
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 00860 091510Z

INTERNATIONALISM". HOWEVER, GDR INPUT CLEARLY
EVIDENT IN UNUSUALLY STRONG CRITICISM OF IMPERIALIST
AND REACTIONARY PLOTS TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL
AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES. CEAUSESCU VISIT TO GDR
IS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT DATES NOT YET SET.
END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN DEPFONMIN OANCEA, HONECKER VISIT WAS AGREED TO AT BERLIN ECPC WITH DATES SET DURING WARSAW PACT NOVEMBER GATHERING IN BUCHAREST. ALTHOUGH OANCEA CLAIMED IT NOT ROUTINE PRACTICE TO ANNOUNCE SUCH PARTY VISITS IN ADVANCE, MOST IN FACT HAVE BEEN AND HONECKER'S SUDDEN ARRIVAL IS EXCEPTION TO RULE. GDR AMBASSADOR REMARKED TO OUR AMBASSADOR THAT VISIT ORIGINALLY MEANT AS HUNTING TRIP (WHICH TOOK PLACE IN TIMISOARA), BUT TURNED OUT TO BE MORE SUBSTANTIVE THAN EXPECTED. ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON POSSIBILITIES FOR FIRST-EVER GDR-GOR JOINT VENTURES.

3. WHILE HONECKER REFERRED TO "PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM" IN HIS TOAST, PHRASE FAILED TO FIND ITS WAY INTO COMMUNIQUE. ROMANIANS APPARENTLY PRESSED INSTEAD FOR RECITATION OF BERLIN TCPC PRINCIPLES. AS DEPFONMIN OANCEA REMARKED TO AMBASSADOR, "WHAT IS MORE FITTING IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH GDR THAN LANGUAGE ADOPTED IN BERLIN ITSELF." HONECKER PERHAPS PRESSED HARDEST FOR INCLUSION IN COMMUNIQUE OF STRONG CONDEMNATION OF IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY PLOTS TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES. THAT GDR ORIGINATED PHRASEOLOGY ALSO REFLECTED IN ITS ABSENCE IN USUAL ROMANIAN MEDIA WRAP-UP ON VISIT. OANCEA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT REFERENCE WAS DUE TO GDR'S SPECIAL SITUATION WITH ITS "EXPOSED" BORDER. HE SAID GOR ALSO FELT "ANTI-COMMUNIST" EFFORTS ARE BEING DIRECTED AGAINST GDR, AND THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUCAR 00860 091510Z

THESE WERE LIKELY TO BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. OANCEA MENTIONED THAT POTQ ATNRTJ HONECKER VISIT FITS IN WITH PATTERN OF IMPROVED ROMANIAN-EE RELATIONS EVIDENT SINCE BREZHNEV VISIT HERE, AND ALSO REFLECTED IN CEAUSESCU'S 1977 TRAVEL PLANS (BUCHAREST 0086). POLISH VISIT SEEMS SET FOR SUMMER AND RETURN OF HONECKER VISIT MIGHT ALSO OCCUR THEN, BUT DATES APPARENTLY NOT YET CERTAIN. EVEN ALBANIANS ARE GETTING INTO ACT WITH ALBANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER EXPECTED TO BEGIN BUCHAREST VISIT FEBRUARY 8. DEPFONMIN OANCEA REMARKED TO AMBASSADOR THAT THIS WAS FIRST SUCH VISIT ON ALBANIAN INITIATIVE IN A COUPLE YEARS. BARNES

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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